



# Hollinsclough C of E Academy

## Winter / Icy Weather Treatment Policy: 2019

### Mission Statement

*'To encourage the enthusiasm and joy of learning through a creative curriculum and a holistic approach to education that reflects Christian values and supports our community. We guarantee accessibility and availability to all.'*

### *Developing potential*

#### **Aims**

This policy intends to place a means to reduce the risk of slips/accidents as a result of ice, frost or snow. We have put in place a methodology to assess the risk; a means to manage the risk through the application of suitable treatments to reduce/remove the risk and to record when this approach is activated and the areas to be treated in terms of their threat level.

The outdoor areas used by pedestrians most likely to be affected by ice, for example - building entrances, car park, pedestrian walkways, ramped/sloped areas, and steps.

On occasion, this may include the road outside the main school gates.

Where possible we will endeavour to monitor the weather/temperature, as prevention is key.

We will if possible take action whenever freezing temperatures are forecast and keep up to date by visiting one of the weather service sites below, through the use of local knowledge, or on recommendation from the Local Authority

- Met office website = [www.metoffice.gov.uk/index.html](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/index.html)
- BBC weather website = [www.bbc.co.uk/weather](http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather)
- Highways agency website = [www.highways.gov.uk](http://www.highways.gov.uk)

The intention will be where practicable to ensure that a delivery system is in place to prevent an icy surface forming and/or keep pedestrians off those slippery surfaces which fall outside the treatment plan

#### **Treatment types**

At present we have access to several de-icing solutions; these include but are not limited to;

- **Rock Salt** – effective to -6C / -10C degrees – driveway
- **Rock Salt Alternative** - effective to beyond -21C degrees – Car Park and footway areas

**Rock salt** (RS) (plain and treated) is the most commonly used 'grit'. The substance used by our Academy is the same as that used on public roads by the highways authority.

**Rock Salt Alternative** (RSA) is a granular product provided by **APT** that does not damage tarmac surfaces, plant and grass foliage or spoil carpets

#### **Treatment Plan**

Initial treatment will be the use of clearing equipment to remove snow if present (local plough or manual shovelling), followed by;

- Rock Salt (RS) on the main drive and car park
- Rock Salt alternative (RSA) on pedestrian routes and steps

Treatment will be carried out when frost, ice or snow is forecast or when walkways are likely to be damp or wet, and the floor temperatures are at, or below freezing. Where possible we will apply the initial treatment early in the evening before the frost settles and/or early in the morning before staff, pupils and parents arrive.

The treatments we use can stop ice forming and cause existing ice and small amounts of snow to melt, but it should be noted that following an application there may be, dependent on conditions a short period before the treatment becomes effective, while the product permeates the ice/snow.

It is important to note treatment only offers improvement in conditions, be it for pedestrian or road traffic, so care will need to be exercised at all times by all users.

No tests have been carried out on how much of each product will need to be used as conditions will vary daily and in the various places around the school site. The amount of applied treatment will be governed by the manufacturer/supplier recommendation in the first instance and adjusted by our site staff to suit the unique conditions that can prevail in the Hollinsclough area.

## Routes to be treated in order of priority and treatment type (RSA / RS)

1. Main pedestrian access route from driveway including steps to entrance door (RSA) marked in **blue**
2. Driveway to the car park from the road (RS) to end of grass by boiler room entrance marked in **red**
3. The access route to the kitchen door (RSA)
4. Office steps and landing (RSA)
5. Playground tarmac slope alongside the wall (RSA) marked in **purple**
6. EYFS play area (RSA) marked in **yellow**
7. Steps to playground outlined in white are classed '**off limits**' and should not be used.
8. Other routes around the school to be treated only if deemed necessary.
9. **Offsite – Carr Lane school no parking zone** - Road surface beyond school boundary either side of the driveway access for approx. **5m down Carr Lane marked in beige and 10m up Carr Lane marked in light brown – the full width of the road, if not treated by LA / SMDC Highways/contractor and resources, are available (Grit bin in the village first before use of school resources)**

## Treatment Map — (picture courtesy of Google Maps)



If the conditions are such that it is deemed unsafe for our children to use the playground, especially at dinner time, the arrangements will be the same as a wet playtime

All playground fixed equipment will be out of bounds

In the event of excessive snowfall access to and from the school will be by the same routes.

We reserve the right to adjust/amend all routes treated / available for access to, from and on-site if resources are depleted or not available.

Gritting of the road is beyond the school's responsibility cannot be guaranteed, and as such, we would advise care when using any section at all times.

